

FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

2430 K Street, N. W.
Washington 25, D. C.

20 May 1953

Mr. Richard D. Harriott
Head, BBC Monitoring Service
Caversham Park
Reading, Berks., England

Dear Richard:

This will acknowledge your letter of 12 May 1953 on the subject of FBIS European stations. As you know, we have small stations at Vienna and at Frankfurt. The coverage performed by these two Bureaus is limited, and, I believe, is fully reflected in our Coverage Schedule of which you have copies. In addition to this radio coverage, both of these Bureaus are engaged in supplementary press scrutiny operations. The sampling of West Austrian and West German papers is fairly comprehensive for our purposes and the material seems to be quite useful to government agencies here in Washington. As a matter of fact, there is a chance of a slight expansion in the press scrutiny operation at Frankfurt, due to a recent request that FBIS augment its press service, primarily for the use of US missions and representatives in Germany.

We are doing no monitoring elsewhere in Europe. It is possible that your reference to Berlin was based on a situation that no longer exists, in that the Department of State was formerly recording Radio Volga in Berlin and sending the records to Frankfurt for processing. We are no longer handling Radio Volga in that way, since the erection of a new loop antenna has enabled us to hear Radio Volga in Frankfurt.

We will be most happy to have BBC Liaison Officers visit either or both of these Bureaus at any time. I believe that arrangements can be made between Roland May and the Chiefs of these Bureaus without further reference to Washington. I am sending a copy of this letter to Roland May and he can check at the Embassy to insure that gray cards for Austria can be procured from the Embassy on behalf of BBC personnel and to arrange other travel details.

Sincerely,



cc: Chief, London Bureau

AMW:lcl/LDD:abl - 19 May 1953

cc: Admin. File

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RESTRICTED
SECURITY INFORMATION

15 May 1953

Mr. Richard D. Marriott
Head, BBC Monitoring Service
Caversham Park
Reading, Berks., England

Dear Richard:

This will acknowledge your letter of 12 May 1953 on the subject of FBIS European stations. We have small stations at Vienna and at Frankfurt. The coverage performed by these two Bureaus is limited and I believe is fully reflected in our Coverage Schedule of which you have copies. In addition to this radio coverage, both of these Bureaus are engaged in a press scrutiny operation. The sampling of West Austria and West Germany papers is fairly comprehensive for our purposes and the material seems to be quite useful to Government Agencies here in Washington. As a matter of fact, there is a chance that we may expand the press scrutiny operation in Frankfurt to a press analysis operation. As you may have heard, the Department of State is being forced to curtail its expenditures for service of this kind and we feel that with a very small augmentation of our staff, we could undertake the work desired if there is a real need for it.

We are doing no monitoring elsewhere in Europe. It is possible that your reference to Berlin was based on a situation that no longer exists wherein the Department of State was recording Radio Volga in Berlin and sending the records to Frankfurt for processing. We are no longer handling Radio Volga in that manner since the erection of a new loop antenna has enabled us to hear Radio Volga in Frankfurt.

We will be most happy to have BBC Liaison Officers visit either or both of these Bureaus at any time. I believe that arrangements can be made between Roland Way and the Chiefs of these Bureaus without further reference to Washington. I am sending a copy of this letter to Roland Way and he can check at the Embassy to insure that gray cards for Austria can be procured from the Embassy on behalf of BBC personnel and to arrange other travel details.

Sincerely,

see rewrite
AMW:lel

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THE BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION

Head Office : Broadcasting House, London, W.1

Caversham Park, Reading, Berks.

TELEPHONE : READING 72742

Reference:
07/MS/RDM

12th May 1953

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F.B.I.S.,
2430 E Street, NW,
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Alan,

Many thanks for your letter of 29th April. We were all delighted to see you here and only wished that you could stay longer or come more often or both. I too am very sorry to be going, not least because it will end the very happy association I have had with you and all your people. I am sure that you will find Campbell as easy to deal with (if I have been easy) and will give him the same help that you have given me.

I do not remember off-hand if there is anything we discussed here that required action on your part, except possibly the duplication between Reseda and Okinawa (though even on this there was some doubt as to whether in fact anything could be done). One thing, however, I forgot to talk to you about was the question of F.B.I.S. monitoring in Europe. There was a suggestion when I was in Washington that we could work some cooperation during the summer months with the stations at Frankfurt and Vienna, for which you gave the theoretical all-clear. We decided here later, however, that for various reasons it was not really practicable. However, it occurred to me that it might be useful, as part of the travelling liaison arrangement with F.B.I.S., which we discussed, to include your Europe stations in this. I think it might be useful for someone from here to go around and make contact with them, find out what they are doing and tell them what we are doing here. I have, I am afraid, only a hazy idea of what does go on

in Europe. I believe that apart from Frankfurt and Vienna there is some monitoring being done in Berlin and perhaps elsewhere. Would you think it a good thing to extend liaison in this way? If so, could you tell us what stations you have, the names of the bureau heads, official addresses and just what would be the best way of fixing up an itinerary

We will be letting you have in due course and well in advance the suggestion for a liaison trip to Okinawa and other Far Eastern stations this autumn, and also for liaison visits to Cyprus. This latter we can discuss with when he is over here.

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John

Int.

(R.D. Marriott)

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